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TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
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No. 198



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20 January 1982

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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

UAE-INDIAN SUBMARINE CABLE--Indian Communications Minister C. M. Stephen has said India and the United Arab Emirates have reached an agreement to lay a submarine cable between Bombay and the UAE across the Arabian Sea to improve communications with the Gulf countries, UNI News Agency reported from Madras yesterday. Inaugurating the Madras-Penang Indian Ocean Commonwealth (IOCOM) submarine cable system, Mr Stephen said the agreement had been reached during the talks he had with his UAE counterpart, Mr Muhammad Sa'id al-Mulla, in New Delhi on Wednesday. The minister said the work on the laying of the cable would be completed in 2 to 3 years. [Text] [GF250906 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 25 Dec 81 p 3 GF]

'WAM'-PTI' AGREEMENT--It was announced today that the UAE and India have agreed to exchange news and information through their respective news agencies. According to the agreement, which will come into effect on 10 January 1982, the Press Trust of India 'PTI' will transmit the news it receives from the Emirates News Agency 'WAM' on its internal network, which covers all the Indian states, while WAM will translate and transmit news and reportage from PTI on its internal network. [GF041410 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1214 GMT 4 Jan 82]

GDR , ZIMBABWE PACT--The signing of two major agreements for Press co-operation between Zimbabwe and the German Democratic Republic earlier this month had consolidated existing relationships, the chairman of the Mass Media Trust, Dr Davison Sadza, said yesterday. In an interview he said: "We signed an agreement of co-operation between Ziana and the GDR's news agency, ADN, and another on working protocol for 1982." The agreements would allow the two countries to have mutual exchanges of news, ideas and personnel. Dr Sadza visited the GDR at the invitation of the director-general of ADN, Mr Guenter Poetschke, and stayed in the republic for six days. "My visit to the GDR was highly successful. I reviewed their mass media as a whole, including newspapers, school of mass communication, radio and television. "My visit to the news agency in particular and the mass communications in general, had cleared the way for other agreements in the mass media field." He added: "This initial visit is going to be followed up by other visits to consolidate the initially agreed programmes."--Ziana [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 31 Dec 81 p 3]

CSO: 5500/5649

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

ASIA-PACIFIC NEWS NETWORK IN OPERATION

BK310949 Hong Kong AFP in English 0907 GMT 31 Dec 81

[AFP caveat "Releasable at 1631 GMT"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 31 Dec (AFP)--The Asia-Pacific News Network (ANN) launched by the Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies (OANA) last November goes into operation tomorrow.

In a message marking the occasion, OANA President Ahmad Mustapha Hassan urged member agencies to keep in mind ANN's two major objectives to ensure that the network succeeded in bringing the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region closer together.

One such aim is to redress the current imbalance in news flow. The other is to promote goodwill, harmony, understanding and co-operation among the peoples in the Asia-Pacific region.

ANN was launched at the fifth General Assembly of OANA in Kuala Lumpur last November when OANA also expanded its membership from 14 to 23.

Ahmad Mustapha, the general manager of the Malaysian News Agency, BERMAMA, said he was proud that OANA was able to help fulfill the aspirations of the people.

"We have been very positive in our approach and very professional in our decisions and this means that we are very responsible in our role to fulfill our task of giving meaning to the political independence that we have secured," he said.

To know and then to understand one another had been the basis of the formation of OANA and ANN will enhance the information and the knowledge that the peoples had about this area, he added.

"Without understanding, there can never be peace, and without peace there can never be development," he noted.

Mr Ahmad Mustapha expressed OANA's gratitude to UNESCO, the International Telecommunications Union, governments and governmental agencies and other organisations and individuals for helping OANA overcome hurdles in establishing ANN.

He said OANA hoped to continue its close association with these organisations not only as far as ensuring that it remained viable but also in other matters of mutual concern and benefit.

CSO: 5500/2072

EXPERTS AT COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP INTERVIEWED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 10, 11 Dec 81

[Two-part article: "Communication Policy"]

[10 Dec 81 pp 1,8]

[Text] Experts Discard Control on Media

The communication media should be independent of governmental control to make it effective in serving the national goals.

This was the consensus of most of the media experts now attending the "Regional workshop on Communication Policies" while talking to New Nation. They said free flow of news was absolutely necessary for a balanced growth of a nation. The Third World countries have suffered also because of the government control over the media which had failed to serve the people and finally the government.

Mr. Justice Basudev Sharma, chairman of the Press Council of Nepal told New Nation free flow of news is affected by governmental control. He said Press and other media, experience shows, have failed

to perform their best in any given country if it was not allowed to function independently. He mentioned of quite a few countries where curtailment of the right of the Press had resulted in political anarchy.

He said in Nepal there was a Press Council for providing guidelines to the national media. He, however, said mere providing guidelines would never solve their basic problems. It should be backed by solid political will to let the media function independently.

Mr. Justice Sharma said there should also be extensive exchange of news between the countries of the region so that the people could understand the problems, hopes and aspirations of each other better. Regional co-operation between the countries in the field of communication could go a long way in achieving the goal of development of this region.

In this connection he made a mention of the water resources of the region and recent efforts being made by his country and Bangladesh in associating India in its development. He said Nepal had agreed to the idea of regional co-operation between Nepal, Bangladesh and India in the development of the water resources of this region.

He hoped the workshop will come out with specific recommendations for co-operation between the regional countries in the field of communication. He also hoped necessary followups will be made to ensure that the recommendations were implemented by relevant countries and authorities.

Justice Sharma also emphasised the need for proper research and planning in the field of communication for its co-ordinated development in the region.

[11 Dec 81, pp 1,8]

[Text] Cooperation Vital for This Region

The developing countries in recent years have felt the urgent need for policy formulation and planning of communication in order to achieve national goals. The Asian Regional Workshop now being held in Dacca aims at framing pragmatic and development-oriented communication policy for the countries of this region.

Talking to New Nation, Dr. Ling Liang Sik, Deputy Minister, Information, Malaysia, who is attending the workshop, said that regional cooperation is needed for developing communication in the countries of this region which have neither comprehensive nor compact policy to be of effective use.

He said, "we don't have coordinated communication policy as well as latest technology to serve the purpose and the workshop would be able to draw 'broad guidelines' for formulating communication policies for the countries of this region."

Referring to the workshop that will conclude today, the Malaysian Deputy Minister said that the endeavour has been launched for the whole of Asia and the Pacific, and there is a long way to go as the countries of this region being

developing ones should move together for their welfare and development.

Dr. Liang Sik laid emphasis on pursuing the guidelines to be framed by the workshop by the countries concerned as most of them have no co-ordinated communication policies to achieve national goals.

India's Mr. G. Kulkarni told New Nation that the participating countries should come closer as their delegates assembled on the occasion in Dacca for mutual cooperation in order to overcome the hurdles facing particularly the developing nations of their region.

Mr. Kulkarni, however, said that most of the countries again suffer from "mutual suspicion" against each other and remain aloof from such co-operation to overcome some of the common problems facing them.

He said some of the developing countries like India have enough technological achievements and advancements for undertaking such regional cooperation particularly in the field of communication.

Mr Kulkarni expressed his optimism about the outcome of the workshop which he is attending and said, "I am hopeful but it can't be built overnight". In this regard, he mentioned that the countries belonging to the South should realise the im-

portance for their rapid and coherent development when they demand new international economic order in the face of present economic recession.

Referring to the role of western media, Mr Kulkarni said they serve their interest where it is involved and for obvious reason they don't take care or consideration of the interest of the developing countries. "To serve our purpose and protect our own interest, we must co-operate among ourselves with whatever technological facilities and skilled manpower we have got in developing our own communication," he remarked.

Mr. Masudur Rouf from Pakistan, who is also attending the workshop said the prospect and possibilities of co-operation among the countries in the field of communication is "bright".

He said, "before we go for such an endeavour, we must put our respective house in order". He referred to the communication policy pursued by most of the developing countries as is comprehensive and incoherent.

Mr. Masudur Rouf is optimistic that the guidelines to be framed by the workshop would help formulate a pragmatic and development oriented communication policy by the countries concerned in order to achieve their desired goals.

CSO: 5500/7053

INFORMATION MINISTER'S SPEECH TO UNESCO WORKSHOP

Dacca THE BANGLADESHI TIMES in English 10 Dec 81 p 5

[Text of the inaugural speech of Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury, Minister for Information and Broadcasting at the five-day UNESCO Regional Workshop on Communication Policies at Dacca]

[Text]

I deem it a proud privilege and honour to be in the midst of so many communication experts and practitioners this fine winter morning. My heartfelt thanks are due to the organisers of this Regional Workshop on Communication Policies. As a life long humble practitioner in the field of mass communication I cannot but be happy to meet my brothers in the profession from eight countries of the region.

The importance of holding such a workshop in the context of developing nations can hardly be over emphasised. It is being organised at a time when the people of Bangladesh have just successfully completed a process of democratic communication through the President election on the basis of universal adult franchise. The successful completion of this process is very important to us as we believe in creating a participatory society in which information flows not only downward from government to the people but across horizontally among the people and upward from the people to the government.

Bangladesh is a small country with large and ever increasing population of which 85 per cent live in 48 thousand villages like most developing countries. Illiteracy, poverty, malnutrition and hunger are their basic components. But this is not the whole truth. Entire nation has taken the vow to remove those legacies of the colonial period through political movement for development. The successive, though modest,

is worth mentioning. Food deficit has been narrowed down to a great extent, population growth rate reduced. 4 million people have been given literacy in less than a year's time through mass literacy campaign and miles of canal were dug for irrigation and drainage under voluntary mass participation programme. These are examples of unique mass mobilisation and people's participation in development work. Communication has played a major role in mobilising and motivating the people for the purpose.

This is how communication has become very much involved in our national endeavour. Development is the keyword for any communication policy that we visualise for ourselves. We need to plan our communication system that will cater for the real information requirements of the people and of the government fostering a genuine two-way flow of information. It should be the keystone in a production-oriented democratic system, in which common man should have much greater opportunity to participate in communication by which Indian individuals and groups must have right to communicate a right to be informed and a right to inform.

Man is the ultimate target of all communication. All development efforts of the government are also for enhancement in the quality of man's life. The man has to be reached, he is to be informed and educated. It is for the experts to decide how best this simple communication can be done and how uneducated and

unassuming masses can be effectively reached to elicit their interest to opt for qualitative improvement in the pattern of their life.

It is said, communication is an activity which does not respect boundaries, and communication policies and planning within a country cannot be formulated or implemented without constant reference to international involvement.

World today is sharply divided into developed and developing countries. The communication needs of these two economically divided world are also different. The highly industrialised nations have their own sophisticated communication system and network which also influence the flow of communication in the developing nations. This, according to the expert opinion, jeopardises the normal communication needs of the Third World countries. Almost all of these nations were under colonial rule and coming out of the colonial bondage they were confronted with the enormous task of building up their economy in accordance with the hopes and aspirations of their people.

We have gathered here to work out a common set of communication policies fulfilling the needs of the developing nations. We must be very clear about those needs before going down to the real business of policy framing. Therefore, the objective conclusions obtaining in the developing countries will have to be carefully evaluated to fit them into the broader framework of policy planning.

Right to communicate is a

pre-condition for the free flow of information. We fully endorse this contention. In our country we have guaranteed in our Constitution the right of a man to communicate freely. Bangladesh with other nations of the world and the UNESCO aims for free and balanced flow of information. But, I am afraid, in the heavily western dominated communication network, the flow of information is far at all balanced. It is heavily tilted in favour of the developed nations. In our policy formulation, we have to give a special attention to how this imbalance in the flow of information can be removed. This has to be achieved in a spirit of cooperation rather than confrontation.

Communication media are constantly fed with information. But the greatest part of message emanates from the cities. Villages remain almost untouched. But village is the real self of the Third World countries in general, and Bangladesh in particular. We are trying to reduce this gap by encouraging rural newspaper, distributing radio and television sets free of cost and at subsidised rate for community use.

We are aware that concerted efforts in regional and international spheres are essential to reduce the information imbalance and we are happy that this feeling prevails in other countries of the world.

We, the countries of this region, have national peculiarities. But, nevertheless we have many common problems which will lead us to evolve a common approach for the

solution of those problems and here communication becomes vitally important.

If communication is to play its proper role, it has to be properly planned and well structured for which a definite and comprehensive policy is essential. And I am confident that august gathering will come out with positive and specific recommendations.

We have in certain measure our own communication policies. But it is still quite comprehensive and fully planned. We hope and believe concerted efforts in the form of regional and international workshops and seminars will produce pragmatic and meaningful guidelines towards this end and recommend communication policies reflecting the hopes and aspirations of the people in this region.

We are already trying to build up infrastructure, enhance skill of communicators and to cooperate with international bodies like UNESCO and between and among the countries of this region and the world as a whole. We are confident regional cooperation in academic sphere and real life situation will help individual countries formulate communication policy and increase exchange of information, ideas and expertise which at the moment are not available at the desired level.

I would conclude with the hope that this Regional Workshop will throw light towards formulating a comprehensive communication policy for the participating countries including Bangladesh and hopefully for all the countries of the Third World.

TROUBLES IN DACCA TELEPHONE EXCHANGE REPORTED

Dacca THE NEW NATION in English 8 Dec 81 p 1

[Text]

More than 35 thousand applications for new telephone sets are lying pending with the Dacca Telephone Region authority while the pressure on the existing exchanges has reached the limits.

More than six thousand telephone sets are out of order within the DTR due to lack of maintenance of the cables.

Talking to this correspondent a high official of the DTR informed that the DTR has now an overall capacity of around 60 thousand telephone lines while nearly 53 thousand are already working. According to him the most crowded exchanges are Gulshan and Maghbazar with five and ten thousand capacity respectively. These two telephone exchanges can afford some few dozen more lines which is very strictly distributed by the T&T Minister himself.

The central exchange has recently been reinforced with some 15 thousand more telephone lines easing the rush there to some extent. With the rush of new applicants for telephone sets, the DTR has no immediate plan of massive expansion of their services except setting up a ten-thousand line telephone

exchange at Nilkhel. Meanwhile more than six thousand telephone sets of the city are lying out of order for a long due to faulty cable link. The DTR authority, however, blames it on the Dacca Municipal Corporation's non-cooperation.

The DTR official said that there was a long correspondence between the DTR, the T & T Board, the Ministry of P T & T and the Mayor of Dacca Municipal Corporation and the last named straightly refused to give any permission for cutting and digging the city roads at the necessary spots to repair the cables.

As the rush grows for new telephones, so grow the old subscribers problem, specially when they need to be connected to numbers under exchanges other than their own.

Gulshan, Mirpur Tongi and Narayanganj telephone exchange areas are the most crowded ones and most difficult to get through.

T & T officials also complain about widespread theft of telephone cables in different areas especially near the Darus Salam police-box and in front of the Bangla College on the Mirpur Road.

CSO: 5500/7051

BOMBAY TELEPHONE IMPROVEMENT PLANS TOLD

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 5 Dec 81 p 9

[Text]

BOMBAY, December 4: The availability of telephones in the suburbs is expected to improve considerably with the laying of 625,000 lines with a capacity of 800,000 telephones and 2,000 telex connections by March, 1986, Mr. P. C. Jauhari, general manager of Bombay Telephones, announced here today.

He said presuming that the population of the city would touch 10 million by 1986, the ratio of telephone to the population would be 1:16. If the slum population was excluded, the ratio would then 1:8.

Mr. Jauhari was addressing the Society of Special Executive Magistrates and Honorary Metropolitan Magistrates of Bombay on "Bombay Telephones in the 80s" at the Oberoi Towers today.

He said 95 per cent of the 325,000 additional exchange capacity would be of improved imported equipment for which firm orders had been finalized.

The expansion plan for Bombay South would offer electronic equipment. Two of the main advantages is the electronic system would be parking on busy lines and conference calls.

Parking on busy lines would enable a caller to have his call registered automatically and when the phone got free it would automatically register the call without the caller having to

dial frequently.

Conference calls would enable a person to speak to four persons at a time simultaneously.

The communications department had not decided on whether the charges for the electronic and old systems should be the same or different.

Bombay Telephones, he said, would also provide 800 telex connections after the electronic telex exchange was commissioned at Fountain by May, 1982. Another 2,000 connections would be divided into two categories—priority list for foreign exchange-earners, consulates, government and semi-government organisations and general category from two exchanges to be located in the Fountain and Prabhadevi areas.

Steps were being taken to get trunk calls within two minutes, he added.

He pointed out that the special category of "social workers" had been abolished and was replaced by "eminent public men." While conceding that the definition was "vague", he said he would exercise his discretion cautiously.

Bombay Telephones, he said, planned to introduce phones purely for international purposes to big business houses. Another facility was to enable foreigners living in five-and four-star hotels to make quick calls. The charges would be paid in foreign exchange.

CSO: 5500/7049

FOREIGN TIE-UP PLAN FOR PHONE INSTRUMENTS OPPOSED

Madras THE HINDU in English 14 Dec 81 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Dec. 13

The Communications Ministry's proposal to seek collaboration agreement between the Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) and either Face, the Italian subsidiary of the International Telephones and Telegraphs (ITT) or Siemens of West Germany, which have submitted offers for producing sophisticated telephone instruments, has caused considerable disquiet to the State-owned Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited (ETTDC).

ETTDC, which feels that there is no need for seeking collaboration from any foreign party for making new types of telephone, is working hard to convert the Government to its point of view.

ETTDC claims to have developed a rotary dial type telephone instrument which meets international technical standards. It also claims to have developed the complete production know-how, tools, jigs and fixtures for the purpose.

**Letters of Intent for
3 more State units**

The telephone instrument, developed by ETTDC, is being produced by the Gujarat Communications and Electronics Limited (GCEL), a public sector unit of the Gujarat Government, which has been licensed to make 200,000 instruments a year.

The Union Government has also issued letters of intent to three more

State units in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra for 200,000 instruments each. ETTDC will be setting up the factories in these State units on a turnkey basis.

A disconcerting aspect relating to telephone technology and production is that the relations between ITI on the one hand and the Department of Electronics (DOE) and ETTDC on the other are far from cordial. ETTDC and DOE have repeatedly expressed themselves against the perpetuation of "monopoly" by ITI for making telephones. They have questioned the need for ITI to be still seeking collaboration after manufacturing telephones for several years.

ETTDC feels that the technology it has already developed and supplied to GCEL and will be supplying to the other State units, should be adequate to meet the needs of telephone traffic in the country which is now largely served by the electro-mechanical Stromberg and Crossbar exchange network. If at all there should be fresh collaboration for making telephones, it should be for the electronic telephone with integrated circuit (IC) based push button dial, and IC-based transmission circuit which will be coming into the international market in two years from now.

ETTDC also hopes to secure orders for the telephone instrument it has developed from the West Asian, South-

East Asian, African countries and East European countries. The rotary dial for the telephone was manufactured on the basis of know-how got from Poland at a nominal cost of about Rs 5 lakhs. GCEL is reported to have secured orders from users like the railways for its telephones, though the Posts and Telegraphs Department will not accept it.

ITI, however, is not impressed by the claims made by ETTDC and GCEL. Its contention is that it has developed the technology for the advanced 671 and 677 model telephones, but the increase of the annual output to one million telephones requires the switch-over to semi-automatic lines, for which it has to import technology. The ETTDC has questioned this and pointed out that the decentralisation of telephone production among the various State units could achieve an output of 6 to 8 lakh telephones at a far smaller cost than the estimated outlay of Rs. 12 to 18 crores, which would be called for under the proposed collaboration agreement with either Face or Siemens. ITI does not think that the State units can live upto the claims made on their behalf.

The views of ETTDC and DOE that before seeking fresh collaboration, the needs of future switch-over to electronic telephone traffic should be taken into account are however, regarded as quite valid by the Communications Ministry.

CSO: 5500/7054

BRIEFS

NEW ANTENNA, LANDING SYSTEM--New Delhi, December 4--The INS "Vikrant", the Indian Navy's only aircraft carrier, will soon be equipped with a control system for an optical landing aid, which has been indigenously developed for the first time at the Centre for Applied Research in Electronics of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. This system stabilises the beam of light in spite of the constant pitching of a ship, thus providing a reliable glidepath to an aircraft and ensuring accurate landing. Prof. O. P. Jain, director, IIT, Delhi, told reporters yesterday that the system had been tested by naval experts and was likely to be installed on the aircraft carrier very soon. So far, he said, the Indian navy had been importing this device from the U.S. at the cost of nearly Rs. 1 crore. The equipment developed here will cost only Rs. 30 lakhs. The Indian Navy, he said, had placed an order for three such devices till now. In addition, the IIT had also developed a low frequency antenna, which can be used for submarine communication. It will be used for the first time in the country by the Indian Navy for its Skylark project along the west coast, Prof. Jain added. [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 5 Dec 81 p 15]

PHONE LINK SATELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED--The country's first satellite for transmission of telephone calls will be put into orbit in April. Union Communications Secretary S.K. Ghosh told newsmen in Calcutta that earth stations are being built at Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Shillong. [Text] [BK010914 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Jan 82]

CSO: 5500/2072

WORK ON RAILWAY'S LATEST TELECOM SYSTEM STARTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 21 Dec 81 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, Dec. 20: The construction work on Railway's most modern telecommunication system has started. The project is estimated to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 723.3 million including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 387.7 million.

It may be recalled that an agreement between Pakistan Railways and the contractor, M/s Kentron Pakistan Inc. (USA) was signed in October this year.

Detailed route survey was carried out to find the exact location of sites, sizes and number of towers and quantity of equipment required. Based on the survey reported which was completed in April this year path engineering design is reported to have been completed.

In all 44 microwave stations will be built and UHF will be installed at 267 stations. UHF coverage will be provided over all the sections on the main line and important branch lines from Karachi to Rawalpindi. Electronic telephone switching system will also be installed to provide direct dialling facilities between various railway stations and offices.

It is learnt that construction of first microwave station has begun at Kamoke where the work is in progress. This would be a model station for comparison of quality and workmanship. At Gujrat Khan the building work has also been taken in hand and at Lahore tower foundations are being removed.

An amount of Rs. 305 million including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 106 million is reported to have been incurred on the project upto September this year.

According to the contract agreement the firm was to complete the installation and testing of the system by the end of October. Next year but due to some delay in the survey, the work is likely to be completed by December 1982.

It is expected that most of the equipment for the telecom network will be received during the current financial year and major portion of the installation will also be completed within this period.

According to the contract, the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of next year and it is hoped that with its completion the operation efficiency of the railways will increase and all bottlenecks will be eliminated.

CSO: 5500/4529

PLEA FOR INTERNATIONAL CODE ON INFORMATION FLOW

Karachi DAWN in English 5 Jan 82 p 5

[Text] There is a need to evolve a body which should draw up an international code of conduct regarding the use of the flow of information across national borders.

This was stated by the Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Mr Masoodur Rauf, while delivering a talk at a dinner hosted by the chief executive and editor of the journal "Investment and Marketing" here yesterday.

He said the data of information in the coming years would become a necessary component in the dynamics of social and political life of our country as related to our neighbouring countries and the international community.

He said doubts were being expressed among communication scholars all over the world whether mankind would be able to absorb what one might call the shock effect of the instant abundance of information being endlessly churned out by the present-day mass media.

Emphasising the need to use the developments in the field of media to "our greatest advantage," he said: "The present-day development of media, which I have described as an explosion, has taken advantage of nearly all developments in almost every related field. The media are responding and expanding in a highly innovative, productive and imaginative way to the developments in space technology, satellites, the latest transmission — technology by optical fiber, microprocessors and video-equipment."—APP

CSO: 5500/4530

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

BRIEFS

'YONHAP' TO NEWS NETWORK--Beginning 1 January 1982, the Asia and Pacific News Network--ANN--will officially begin operation among the news agencies of the Asian and Pacific nations. With this new network, the YONHAP News Agency of Korea and other ANN member news agencies will transmit in English domestic news of their countries for 15 minutes each day. The newscast will be conveyed to each member news agency via five relay stations located in Jakarta, Manila, New Delhi and two other sites. Establishment of the ANN was decided on at the fifth General Assembly of the League of Asian and Pacific News Agencies which was held in Kuala Lumpur in early November. [Text] [SK311332 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 1000 GMT 31 Dec 81]

CSO: 5500/2072

ENTEL OFFICIAL DETAILS 1982 PROGRAM

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 10 Dec 81 p 15

[Text] "No one is deafer than he who does not wish to hear and there is no one more incomunicado than he who is an ENTEL subscriber." Perhaps during recent years or recent months or even during the last few days this statement may have been the common denominator in the thoughts of an Argentine who, in an act of civic daring may have had the audacious idea of making a person-to-person telephone call, without interference of delays, to his mother-in-law who lives in the town of Berazategui.

ENTEL, the National Telecommunications Company, has been for a long time the most important factor causing the "isolation of Argentines."

In an effort to erase that image and with the promise of a later banquet-like lunch for the press (nowadays this meal is a symbol for communication), Col Vicente Cerdá Rivero, general manager of the enterprise, presented to the journalists a detailed analysis of ENTEL's activities during 1981 and prospective new projects.

The press conference, which took place at the headquarters at Talcahuano 185, was very well organized. It included in addition to a detailed report on the enterprise's activities illustrated with slides, a new telephone book with the acronym of the telecommunications company.

Future Projects

On this occasion Cerdá Rivero gave a detailed report on the projects to be carried out during 1982 as follows:

Automatic urban telephone exchanges: about 137,000 urban communication lines are being installed to be put into use next year at automatic telephone exchanges throughout the country.

Automatic inter-city telephone exchanges: continuing the plan to extend automatic dialing service to all the nation, it is planned to put new telephone exchanges into service and to enlarge several interurban automatic telephone exchanges. These are in Córdoba, Santa Fe, Junín, Pehuajo, Chascomús, Chivilcoy, General Pico, Pergamino, San Francisco, Villa María, Rafaela, Resistencia, Río Cuarto, San Luis, Goya, 8 de Julio and Rufino.

These projects will total about 4,800 new automatic dial lines, which will increase considerably the number of subscribers in the nation who will be interconnected.

The Buenos Aires digital belt: the five remaining traffic centers will be entered into service, so as to integrate the entire area: Flores, Barracas, Monte Chingolo, Ramos Mejia and Munro.

National communication system by satellite: steps are being taken to obtain electric power from the localities where outlying stations will be set up.

In addition, work has begun on the Maestra Balcarce station and in the outlying stations at Los Menucos (Rio Negro), El Calafate and Rio Gurbio (Santa Cruz). The necessary steps are also being taken to add another outlying station in Rio Mayo, Chubut Province.

International direct dialing exchange: In March the project for expanding the 1,000 direct circuits of subscribers with a high volume of international communications will be put into partial operation.

The project for installing the automatic international telephone exchange will also be completed. It will provide 600 international circuits, completely digital. These projects will satisfy the growing demand for traffic to and from foreign countries and at the same time will provide the means for incorporating subscribers of the urban semi-electronic telephone exchanges which are equipped for international dialing.

9204
CSO: 5500/2066

TELEPHONE COMPANY TO BEGIN \$9 MILLION IN IMPROVEMENTS

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 26 Nov 81 p 17

[Text]

THE Bermuda Telephone Company is next week to sign a contract worth more than \$9 million which will launch the Island into a new era of communications.

Bermuda's telephone system will during the next two years be changed from the traditional analogue to the newer digital technology. Analogue is the method of sending messages and signals in the form of electrical waves and digital is the technology that send signals in the form of electronic pulses.

The new digital switching equipment is to be supplied by Canada's largest manufacturer of telecommunications equipment, Northern Telecom International. Mr. Charles

Millar, president of Northern Telecom Digital Switching Systems will be in the Island next week to sign the contract with Sir John Cox, chairman and president of Telco.

The value of the contract has not been given, but Mr. Desmond Walker, general manager of Telco, estimates the cost of new equipment will exceed \$9 million — and this figure excludes customs duty and interworking equipment.

Delivery of the equipment will start in May 1982 and installation soon after with phased cutovers of equipment scheduled for March 1983. The project calls for the equivalent installation of more than 22,000 lines and the equipment will be located at six sites throughout the Island.

CSO: 5500/7514

COMMUNICATIONS MODERNIZATION WILL GIVE BOOST TO ECONOMY

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 26 Nov 81 p 17

[Text]

B E R M U D A ' S
economy is in for a
substantial cash in-
jection early in the
New Year if Cable
and Wireless is given
the official go-
ahead to begin con-
struction of its pro-
posed new earth
station.

The project, unveiled last week when the company announced that it had applied for planning permission, involves capital spending of about \$18 million.

Of that, roughly a third will go on local expenditures — the lion's share on new buildings to be put up at the communications company's 13-acre installation in Devonshire, with the rest on site alterations and air

conditioning equipment.

The remaining \$12 million or so will be spent on communications equipment, much of it coming from British and Japanese suppliers, whose representatives arrived on the Island this week to begin a technical feasibility study. Cable and Wireless clearly wants to get the project under way as quickly as possible. Said general manager, Mr. Harry Saunter: "Once we get planning permission, we will complete the drawings and submit those for final approval. After that, we will put the local work out to tender. If all goes well, we hope to do this around the beginning of next year so that construction can begin sometime during the summer."

The company aims to have the earth station operational by the end of 1983. But the choice of completion date is no mere ar-

bitrary decision: Two years from now, or perhaps even sooner, Bermuda's direct submarine cable link with the U.S. will be full and communications traffic will be overflowing on to the two alternative cables — one goes up to Canada and other south to the Virgin Islands.

Even without the development of "office-of-the-future" communications in Bermuda, the present 15-20 percent annual rate of growth in international telephone and telex traffic which provide Cable and Wireless with its bread and butter revenues, could soon eat up available capacity on the alternative cables.

The direct cable to America — it comes in at Devonshire Bay at the U.S. end — is already fast approaching full capacity. When it reaches that point, a telephone call from Bermuda to New York, for example, will use one of the other cables

CSO: 5500/7514

IRANIAN SATELLITE COMMISSIONED

LD011448 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 82

[Text] According to a central news unit report, the commissioning of the first phase of the remote-control measurement satellite took place in the presence of Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi; Mohammad Taqi Banki, minister of state in charge of plan and budget organizations, and a group of our country's experts. On the commissioning of the first phase of this project an official, referring to the setting up of this center, said: The utilization of satellite capabilities and services in Iran began in 1973 with the purchase of satellite information and continued in 1976 with the creation, by a U.S. company, of a satellite project in the country. He said: With the realization of the Islamic Revolution and the expulsion of U.S. experts from Iran the satellite project came to a halt, but in the course of the 3 years that followed the revolution, thanks to the efforts of Iranian experts and engineers, we are witnessing today the commissioning of the first phase of the satellite project. In conclusion, referring to the project's technical specifications, he said: The measurement satellite, a scientific satellite, has practical uses in the sphere of the earth's resources, including agriculture, pedology, forests, pastures and hydrology, through films, photographs and magnetic tapes.

Referring to the significance of this scientific project with its benefits for the country's agricultural sector, Mir Hoseyn Musavi said: We are extremely happy to witness the setting up of one of the country's research and investigation units thanks to Iranian experts and specialists and it is clear that thanks to the good efforts and endeavors of dedicated Iranian specialist manpower we are at present capable of running all the country's industrial, production and research units and even such modern and complex installations which, prior to the Islamic revolution, were run by foreign experts.

The prime minister said: One of the government's projects is to set into motion all the useful production and industrial units and utilize all the country's production, industrial, research and scientific capabilities toward achieving self-sufficiency and economic independence, and steps have been taken toward this end.

CSO: 5500/5318

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

PRIVATE RADIO, TV STATIONS POSSIBLE--The communications minister has said that the way has been paved to establish private cable television and radio stations. He reached an agreement on this with the education and culture minister. Moreover, barring delays demanded by law, he said, it would be possible to issue the initial tenders for three television stations in three areas in the country within 2 months. The idea is that the broadcasts of those private stations will not include commercials, so that they will finance their operations through subscription fees to be collected. At the same time, bids will also be issued for private national and regional radio stations. The education minister and the communications minister agreed that a national public body will be set up to determine the standards for the content of the broadcasts in the private stations and to supervise them. The communications minister is now waiting for a report by the attorney general on whether or not there is any need for special legislation on this. [Text] [TA221757
Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 Dec 81]

CSO: 5500/4708

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

INTERKOSMOS PROGRAM--Mozambique is one of the countries participating in international cosmic experiments of the Intercosmos Program. (Amos Novevich), vice-president of the Astronomy Council of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, told DOMINGO, the weekly newspaper, that the Intercosmos network currently has 22 photographic stations and two laser beam stations. Some of these stations are installed in a number of countries, including the People's Republic of Mozambique. The stations are used to obtain and classify the satellite and artificial observations from earth. These stations are of great importance for the ("training") of specialists in the countries where they are installed. [Text] [EA050242 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Jan 82]

NO TELEPHONES AVAILABLE--"At this time there is not one single telephone number available to install telephones in Inhambane," Afonso Micas, director of telecommunications in this province told our reporter. He added that the full complement of 400 numbers is now in use, when at least 10 percent of them should have been kept in reserve. Afonso Micas said that this year's plan (to install 145 telephones in the province) has been blocked by the lack of available numbers, disclosing at the same time that "even those that do exist are affected by constant breakdowns, not to even mention the frequency of crossed lines." The Inhambane telecommunications director said that a team from Maputo has already arrived in the provincial capital to repair the underground Inhambane-Maxixe network which had badly deteriorated. Meanwhile, and whenever the equipment can be obtained, the implementation of a territorial plan is contemplated, which includes the installation of three telephone circuits, one of which is for the Agostinho Neto communal village, the second for the Uguana commercial center and the last is an extension of the Homoine-Nhamussua line. The total cost of this project is estimated at 300 cantos, including fuel and manpower expenses. [Text] [Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese 7 Dec 81 p 2]

CSO: 5500/5651

BRIEFS

TV STATIONS COOPERATE--Bulawayo--The director of programmes for ZTV, Mr Grey Tichatonga, said yesterday that expansion plans envisage the Bulawayo and Salisbury stations each transmitting half the national programmes. This would come about when the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation could provide additional microwave channels. No date had been fixed for this, Mr Tichatonga said. When Bulawayo was producing and transmitting half the national television programmes, its producers, directors and photographers would be much busier than they now are, he said. Producers would include Mike Yeates, Livingstone Mtangadura and Robert Silamba. "We will have the first half of the evening's programme transmitted from Bulawayo, between 5 pm and the 7.45 pm news; and the second half from Salisbury," Mr Tichatonga said. Films made in Bulawayo which were already in the pipeline included Tshaka Zulu, he said. Mr Tirivafi Kangai, deputy director of ZTV, said there would be no drastic changes in the staff of the Bulawayo station. "In fact, there will be more programmes produced from the Bulawayo area than now," Mr Kangai said, and they would cover the fields of education, health and hygiene as well as entertainment. The 7.45 pm news would continue to be transmitted from Salisbury so as to give Bulawayo the advantage of simultaneous live transmissions. [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 29 Dec 81 p 3]

CSO: 5500/5650

CYPRUS

BRIEFS

BAYRAK RADIO-TV TRANSMISSIONS--Nicosia--It has been reported that with the equipment installed for the Bayrak radio-TV system, communications between the TFSC and the outside world has assumed new dimensions. The equipment, which has been assembled and which has yielded positive results after the first tests, can now transmit live programs from the TFSC to the Turkish Radio and Television Network (TRT) in Turkey. It will also be possible to transmit TFSC programs to the outside world through Turkey. The first successful transmission to Ankara was carried out during the visit to Cyprus of a famous politician, Willy Brnadt, a former chancellor of the FRG and leader of the German Social-Democratic Party. This program was transmitted to the TRT in Ankara, which then broadcasted the program. [Excerpt] [NC070809 Nicosia Bozkurt in Turkish 3 Jan 82 p 1]

CSO: 5500/5317

GOVERNMENT BACKS NORDSAT PLAN AT MINISTERIAL MEETING

Helsinki HUVUDSTADSLADET in Swedish 21 Nov 81 p 17

[Text] The government took a favorable attitude toward the Nordsat project on Friday. The compromise which was hammered out for the joint Nordic satellite project was approved by a majority decision of the government. However, the Finnish People's Democratic Alliance dissented.

Friday's decision means that Finland will be involved in the first step which is taken in the direction of cooperation on the satellite project. During the current period, that will entail involvement in the planning work, which is expected to take 2 years. The final decision on Finland's inclusion in the project will not be made until the same is completed.

A group of Nordic officials has suggested that the project should be developed in accordance with the so-called principle of rotating responsibility, first of all. Finland originally advocated a policy of edited programming as an alternative.

The government now favors having the Nordic Council of Ministers investigate in greater detail how a system with two or three channels could be developed which would have a program repertoire that would conform to Finland's wishes as closely as possible.

"Rotating Responsibility"

Finland now assumes that the respective Nordic broadcasting companies would be given broadcasting time within the framework of a system with two or three channels, in accordance with a plan which would be agreed on in the negotiations that are to begin now and are expected to be concluded within a few years.

"Finland is also striving for as comprehensive as possible a use of subtitles in the programs," reports the First Minister of Education Par Stenback (SFP [Swedish People's Party]).

"Not until 2 years later will Finland take a position on the final distribution of costs among the Nordic countries and the shape which the programming policy should take," Stenback went on to say. "For example, one possible compromise would be for each of the respective countries in turn to send up a program of its own. It could last for a month, for one evening or for a few hours.

"We could also agree to work out what is of special interest in the Nordic countries. For example, the American TV series which go into all the Nordic countries could be removed from the planned programming," Stenback said.

Stenback to Copenhagen Alone

The Nordic Council of Ministers will meet in Copenhagen on Monday to decide on the fate of Nordsat. The final, conclusive decision will be taken at the March session of the Council in Helsinki.

It now appears that Par Stenback will be the only one who will go to Copenhagen on Monday. Minister of Communications Veikko Saarto (Finnish People's Democratic League), in fact, has withdrawn from the project completely because of opposition to it by the People's Democrats.

The Nordic ministers of trade and industry are also present in Copenhagen, according to plan, with the exception of Finland's Pirkko Tyolajarvi (Finnish Social Democratic Party), who is on an official visit to Sweden.

Swedish Program in Danger

Thus, the People's Democrats opposed the decision to cooperate on the Nordsat project. The SKDL [Finnish People's Democratic League] had stated earlier that Nordsat did not conform to the underlying principles which should be followed in developing broadcasting activities.

According to the People's Democrats, the project would also tie down an entirely too large portion of the society's financial means and hinder the development of domestic broadcasting activities in that way. Above all, according to the SKDL, the Swedish-language programs would be in danger if the project were put into operation.

The Finnish Communist Party has also stated that the cost of the project will be so high that Finland would not be able to cover it without increasing the licensing fees by a considerable amount. The party also suspects that the supply of Anglo-American entertainment would increase with Nordsat.

Tele-X

Nordsat is also very closely linked to the Swedish Tele-X project, which Sweden proposes to put into effect along with Nordsat, as a parallel project. Finland's Ministry of Commerce and Industry is also to take part in the preparatory planning work for the Tele-X project.

The Tele-X project, which is being handled primarily by the Swedish telecommunications industry, includes, among other things, a special satellite intended for data communication. At present, the question of how industry and space research in the Nordic countries could make use of the satellite is being studied.

Kiuru: "The State Should Pay!"

The director general of Rundradio, Sakari Kiuru, says that the state should take care of most of the costs occasioned by the project. "If it does not," he says, "it would not be possible for Rundradio to participate."

Nevertheless, Rundradio is interested in the possibilities which the new satellite technique opens up for wider distribution where the Swedish-speaking population's need for expanded service is concerned, among other things.

Stenback: "No Reservations"

Although Finland's government has now made a definite decision to keep on with Nordsat, that will be done with certain specific goals in mind for the next 2 years. "However, those goals should not be looked at as amounting to reservations of some sort because they are primarily intended to increase the Finnish TV viewers' interest in the project," Minister of Education Par Stenback said, commenting on the Nordsat decision.

"The government has decided today to be involved in investigating what one could call a process of building up the Nordsat project step by step to where it can begin with two or three channels," he said. "After 2 years have gone by, another decision on the satellite's size, proposals in regard to its cost, etc. will be required.

"It had been expected that the communists would oppose Nordsat in this form, too, and now they are trying to label the decision as an expensive one and a blow to our cultural policy. It is gratifying that the three other parties were able to work out a favorable Nordic line of action," Stenback said.

9266
CSO: 5500/2060

FINLAND

PAPER LAUDS DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH NORDSAT

Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 29 Nov 81 p 2

[Editorial by Catharina Spare: "Pushing the Starter Button"]

[Text] In the eyes of many people, the official statement on Nordsat in August 1980 tabled the project. However, the favorable decision by the Nordic Council of Ministers a few days ago was not a complete surprise, since technical developments are not going to slow down, writes Catharina Spare.

"We have pushed the starter button" was one of the phrases in celebration of victory which circulated through the Nordic countries a few days ago, when the Nordic Council of Ministers made a favorable decision, in principle, in regard to Nordsat in Copenhagen. The decision has already been commented upon in favorable terms and evaluated as a step forward for the project. At the same time, one should keep in mind the fact that this is a decision in principle which will be followed by another 2-year phase of investigation and study. Furthermore, the decision does not cover a complete schedule of programs over both TV and radio in the initial period, but only a gradual building up of radio and television broadcasting via satellite.

The approximately 10 years of ups and downs concerning the question of all-Nordic communications media have been marked by attitudes covering the entire gamut from a jubilant "yes" to the offering of a complete program schedule to a frank "no" to an exchange via satellite. Thus it can also be said that the decision in principle and the proposal of the Council of Ministers, as it now stands, are not completely in harmony, even though one of our own representatives at the meeting, Minister of Education Par Stenback, in a HUFVUDSTADSBLADET report from Copenhagen, said that "we are all of us in favor of it." The decision was made without participation by our Finnish People's Democrats. Although it was the Finnish government's official position which was put forward at the meeting, that was done without the People's Democratic Ministers, Kalevi Kivistö and Veikko Saarto. As is well known, it is precisely in that political camp where opposition to the idea of satellites has been the strongest in this country. Furthermore, Denmark also did not participate in the decisionmaking this time, pleading the impending Folketing election as an excuse. The Danish salaried employees' government shrank from making such a big decision.

Although the objective has not yet been achieved through this adoption of a position by the Ministers of Education, Cultural Affairs, Industry and Communications, the development of the process has been moved a step forward. A little more than a year ago--more specifically, in August 1980--the whole idea was regarded as having been more or less dropped. At that time, positions taken in the big round of debates were made public, and they were not very encouraging for those who were genuinely trying to bring about an increased free cultural exchange via satellite in the Nordic countries. The votes were pretty evenly divided among the "yeses," the "nos" and the noncommittal opinions. We said at that time that the enthusiasm for the satellite had died out like the air coming out of a balloon. In general, it was thought that Nordsat had been shelved for an indefinite period of time. The result was as disappointing as the Swedish referendum on nuclear power. Thus, bearing that phase in mind, it is a big stride forward which is now being taken, although another so-called definition phase of further investigations and studies costing approximately 60 million Danish kroner will take up an additional 2 years.

The comments from the Council of Ministers meeting in Copenhagen were hopeful. According to Minister Stenback, another effort involving the carrying out of investigations and studies on that scale implies an obligation with respect to the use of the money. According to him, the objective must be to put the project into effect. To that can certainly be added the fact that one probably ought to expect, at the same time, that those who, up until then, had opposed the project for special reasons having to do with money used for cultural purposes would scarcely be likely to rejoice over the new program. Sixty million Danish kroner is a lot of money, and it could be divided up among other cultural projects in the Nordic countries. But of course it also makes good sense to add those funds to all the money allocated previously, to the time spent in brain work and the stacks of paper--in fact, to all the expensive resources which would be wasted if one abandoned all thoughts of an exchange via satellite now.

While the new phase is being welcomed as a step forward when viewed against the background of the shelving of the project in August 1980, there is reason to observe that this development is scarcely surprising. Among other things, all during that time, we have seen in the columns of this paper that no negative decisions regarding the Nordsat question can slow down technical development as such. Satellite technology is moving forward and we are gradually being surrounded by other European and Soviet communications satellites. They are going to provide everybody with a flow of TV programs which would be less subject to control by our authorities than the programs resulting from Nordic cooperation. Thus, we have felt for a long time that it is more advantageous for us in the Nordic countries, since we have so many other common cultural interests, to anticipate rather than be anticipated where the satellite question is concerned. It is also probable that the exclusively Swedish Tele-X satellite, which is to be launched independently of Nordsat, has given the all-Nordic project a push forward. As far as can be judged, it is now the Swedish vehicle which, in addition to performing other communications functions, can also serve as an intermediate station for radio and TV programs which will provide some of the experience the new investigation and study phase should take into consideration. And of course that is just fine. Any experience which can be recorded is an asset.

In fact, the Tele-X was already mentioned earlier as a possibility for an increased supply of programs between Sweden and Finland. Experience can also certainly be gained there, among other things, in regard to the question of subtitles which is stressed by Finland.

We now are confronted with a new Nordsat debate—one which we predicted in these columns a little over a year ago. At that time, we stated that what the Nordic countries possibly might gain from a long drawn-out resistance to the exchange via satellite would be the process of benefiting from the mistakes others might make in order to be able to launch a perfect space vehicle later on. They could also be included in the process of definition which is to be carried out during the next 2 years.

9266
CSO: 5500/2060

FINLAND

BRIEFS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENCY TELETEXT CONTRACT--The management of the post and telecommunications system has decided to procure Teletex terminals from Oy Nokia Ab Elektronik. In the first phase, 200 to 300 terminals will be involved and deliveries will begin during the latter part of 1982. The order went to Nokia under conditions of stiff international competition, and it represents an achievement by Finnish industry in this new, rapidly growing sector. Teletex is a new, international, text-transmission service. Texts can be sent and received at the same time one is preparing new texts. Because of standardization, terminals of different manufacture can communicate with each other. [Text] [Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 11 Nov 81 p 12] 9266

MOST FAVOR NORDIC TV-SATELLITE--Sixty percent of the Finnish people want to have an all-Nordic TV satellite, according to a Gallup poll carried out at the behest of the Electrical and Electronic Industrial Federation. It appeared from the poll, which was carried out by Finska Gallup in August and September 1981, that 81 percent of the Finnish population feel that all-Nordic TV programs have great-- or at any rate some sort of--significance for Nordic cooperation and mutual understanding among the inhabitants. In a similar survey in Sweden, it appeared that 70 percent of the Swedish population supported the idea of an all-Nordic TV satellite. [Text] [Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 7 Nov 81 p 20] 9266

CSO: 5500/2060

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CITES PROGRESS IN ANNUAL REPORT

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 17 Dec 81 p 27

[Article: "Telecommunications Made Progress This Year"]

[Text] - The waiting list for telephones included 83,000 applicants at the end of the year, the same number as a year ago.

- The waiting list will be finished before the end of 1987. It could happen earlier, depending upon the demand and how much the Telecommunications Administration [NTV] invests.

- Many applicants refuse the telephone when the offer comes--this year 15,000 withdrew.

- NTV could have managed with a rate increase of 8.5 percent from the start of the year. The increase was 17 percent.

These are some of the main points from the press conference which Managing Director Kjell Holler of NTV held in Oslo on Wednesday. He was pleased with the increase of 4.5 percent in total productivity this year in the department--last year it was 1.9 percent--but he added that still was not good enough. "We feel, however, that we are on a slide," meaning that much of the cause of the increase must be attributed to the fact that the individual telecommunications areas are now independent result units and no longer have the central direction that they previously had.

At the beginning of 1981 the forecast was made that NTV would close the year with a deficit of 40 million kroner. The year-end results now show a profit of 41 million kroner. Income increased by about 1 billion kroner from 1980 to 1981, and for the first time NTV passed 5 billion kroner in income. Next year the department will budget for an income of at least 6.3 billion kroner, and a profit of 312 million kroner. The rate increase from the first of the year will give additional income of 682 million kroner.

The waiting list has not increased from last year to this year, in spite of 114,000 new orders, and the record high number of new subscribers. The number of main subscribers has increased by about 95,000, and the net increase of subscribers has more than doubled in the last four years. The number of telephones will probably pass two million by the end of the year, and the telephone density is 48.7 per 100 inhabitants.

Managing Director Holler said that he saw no reason to change the year 1987 as the year when the waiting list for telephones would be finished in this country. But he added, "It is not unthinkable that something could happen earlier. It depends on how the demand for telephones develops, and what development projects NTV carries out in the future. In that connection we place great importance on the question of additional financing, and we have recommended to the Storting that we be allowed to take out private loans in the amount of 275 million kroner during the period 1982-1985. In this way we will be able to get telephones to over 30,000 applicants without increasing our installation force. The loans will be used for the purchase of 40,000 extra automatic numbers in the same period, and will also cover the necessary expansion of the local telephone net where these numbers are to be installed. In this way we can get telephones to more than 30,000 applicants without the necessity of much increase in our electrician force. Extra expansion will lead to a significant improvement in NTV operations, and we are hoping that the recommendation for extra loan financing will be approved. In addition we believe that the heavy demands placed on us should be lightened by a greater freedom of negotiation for the department. We are not saying that NTV should be set loose as an administrative operation, but when banks and loan institutions are willing to loan us money, we should have the means to accept the offer."

From 1 January the telephone rates will increase by an average of 17 percent. Holler said that NTV could have gotten along with a rate increase of only 8.5 percent to balance the books. When the increase was much higher, it will be used to finance investment. Or to put it another way: Those who already have telephones will contribute to getting new equipment for those on the waiting list.

9287

CSO: 5500/2068

DESPITE EXPECTATIONS, MOST BROADCASTING TO REMAIN MONOPOLY

Oslo DAGBLADET in Norwegian 25 Nov 81 p 5

[Article by Hans Fredrik Dahl: "Langslet Butts Head Against the Monopoly"]

[Text] Almost 130 organizations and firms have so far sought permission to operate local radio stations, cable TV or transmission of TV programs from satellites. Almost none of them will get permission. There is reason to expect that about 95 percent of the hopeful applicants who have heeded the conservative government's signals to be ready for the loosening up of the NRK [Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation] monopoly will be disappointed.

It is the interpretation by the Justice Department of the broadcasting law which is blocking the plans of Lars Roar Langslet [Minister of Culture]. The department's legal section has had the law under consideration, and recently sent the Culture Department a memorandum in which it was confirmed that the law's protection of the NRK monopoly is much tighter than was assumed by the conservative broadcasting policy.

Lars Roar Langslet admitted to AFTENPOSTEN Saturday that access to dispensations under the law are "much more restricted than we had expected." He said, "The NRK law creates an almost hermetically closed system."

Langslet confirmed to DAGBLADET that the entire question of loosening the NRK monopoly has become difficult because of these unforeseen narrow limits. According to the Justice Department the law protects NRK in such a way that the number of dispensations given must remain low. Langslet will not say how low. But according to DAGBLADET's information there can hardly be more than 4 or 5 permissions granted. The Culture Department will try to divide these among as different activities as possible in order to gain experience. This is what Langslet means when he explains that the conservative government will give a "wide spectrum" of access to operate local radio stations, cable TV, etc. But if the access is wide, it will also be very thin, since 95 percent of the applicants must expect denial.

Limits'

The NRK law sets limits for all types of monopoly-breaking activities that the conservatives wanted to create.

As to the local radio stations and local TV transmissions over combined antenna installations, paragraph 1 section 4 of the law sets the limits: "The king can in special circumstances give other permission to limited broadcasting activities."

According to DAGBLADET's information the Justice Department believes that the term "special circumstances" does not justify access to any general dispensation arrangement. The special circumstances have so far been very few in number, so custom can also be said to have placed a limit here.

Satellite transmissions from England, which over 30 different antenna and cable companies have tried to get permission to disseminate to their subscribers, are also blocked by the broadcasting law. The Justice Department bases this on the rather surprising interpretation that these transmissions from the British company Satellite Broadcasting Ltd. are not "lawful broadcasting" within the meaning of the law. The British firm has purchased a place on the European test satellite OTS, which does not transmit on frequencies set aside for broadcasting. The signals sent from the satellite are therefore, from a legal standpoint, not "lawful broadcasting." Therefore the dissemination of them in Norway does not fall under the provisions of the law, to transmit "further dissemination of lawful broadcasting." It would be independent broadcasting, and as such forbidden by the law's overriding decision on NRK's monopoly of sending speech, music, pictures and the like "by radio waves or through wires."

Therefore there will not be any breakthrough for British satellite TV in Norway soon, as the public has been led to believe.

What the conservative government must do to attain that is to take the path toward a change in the law. That long procedure includes detailed preparation, and a long trip through departments and committees before it can be debated in the Storting, where proposed laws have a tendency to wait in a long line before they manage to reach the debate stage.

The Conservative, Christian People's and partly also the Center Party have expressed an interest in easing NRK's monopoly, and although the Labor Party votes are divided on this point, Culture Minister Langslet can probably expect a majority for a change in the law which will at least give access to a more expanded dispensation provision than exists today. It is somewhat more doubtful whether he can get a majority to completely abolish the NRK monopoly.

9287

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OFFICIAL DEFENDS USE OF DOMESTICALLY MADE EQUIPMENT

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 16 Dec 81 p 24

[Article by Mette Harstad: "Technical Director of Telecommunications Administration Says Norwegian Telephone Equipment Not More Expensive"]

[Text] "The Telecommunications Administration [NTV] pays the same price for Norwegian-produced telephone centrals as other Nordic countries pay for similar equipment. With the expansion of our existing centrals we are paying less than equivalent equipment costs in Denmark, for example. It is correct that we should pay more to purchase Norwegian-produced equipment in comparison with prices on the world market," emphasized Technical Director Per Mortensen at NTV to AFTENPOSTEN.

He said that a previous article in AFTENPOSTEN on that subject was based on faulty information. It was disclosed that NTV pays significant amounts each year to purchase Norwegian produced equipment, and that prices on the world market are much lower than prices for telephone equipment in Norway.

The figures are entirely misleading, because the prices of advanced Norwegian equipment were compared with prices for conventional telephone centrals in Copenhagen. In Denmark they mostly use so-called coordinated selector centrals, and these are much lower in price.

"The reason why NTV chose an expensive type central in Oslo during the first half of the 1970's was that we preferred a modern and advanced central for the Oslo traffic. Furthermore, the price difference at that time was modest," said Mortensen.

He admitted, however, that special types of central such as are used in Oslo are more expensive than the usual type, but the prices of equivalent equipments on the world market are the same as here in Norway.

"Most of the telephone centrals that NTV buys today are of the same type as the Copenhagen Telephone Company uses. The price NTV pays for such centrals is fairly similar to the price obtained from Copenhagen, namely 1800 kronor per number," said Mortensen.

"This is the same price as is paid for such equipment in the other Nordic countries. The prices we pay to our suppliers are carefully gone over by the Defense Contract Review Office. Here they carefully go over the production costs of the supplier," he said.

"Then why does the Communications Department not fully understand about the price differences which exist between the Norwegian and the foreign markets?"

"The department is considering other factors. It is concerned with introduction of new techniques, and the department says that NTV will pay too high a price for the introduction of the new digital centrals. The department wants us to go out on the world market with bids for the new technology. That has nothing to do with the purchases that we have already made," emphasized Mortensen.

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FINAL GO-AHEAD GIVEN FOR LOCAL RADIO BROADCASTING

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 17 Dec 81 p 4

[Article by Ragnvald Naerbo: "Green Light for Local Radio, Programs Begin After New Year"]

[Text] "It is wonderful that the government has now granted permission for starting cable TV and local radio broadcasting. These broadcasts will mean greater activity and will increase understanding of what is happening in the local areas," said Rolf Pedersen, chairman of the Norwegian Local Radio Association. He announced that Ekko transmitters in the Stavanger area on New Year's Day and other stations will utilize programs with such titles as "Good News," People's Radio, etc. Hedmarkstoppen folk high school was the first station to make a transmission after the news became known yesterday afternoon as to who could begin local broadcasting.

Pedersen said that the Norwegian Local Radio Association in Stavanger will begin with broadcasting 3 hours per day.

"We will be open for all organizations which have not applied to the department, but which are interested in local radio," said Pedersen. "The contents of our programs will be short, quick items from the cultural life in Stavanger. There will be much music, special local music, direct transmissions in which we interview known people, politicians, artists. Many of the items will resemble a local version of Ekko."

Technically and practically the Norwegian Local Radio Association is only waiting for a green light from the Telecommunications Administration [NTV] before broadcasting can begin. There are, however, a couple of problems. Pedersen hopes that the rent for NTV's transmitter will not exceed 8,000 kroner per year (about the same as the price paid in Sweden) and that the fees can be reduced to a minimum.

In Stavanger 14 other organizations want to start local radio broadcasting. In Bergen four groups will get a chance, including the Student Council at the university. Robin Kirkhus advised AFTENPOSTEN that they are going to have programs of general interest. About 10 students will back up the transmissions, which will

primarily involve current information to new students and interesting items from the near locality. NTV will obtain a transmitter, and the first programs will probably be ready at the end of January.

Trondheim will have political radio programs. In any case the Red Election Alliance [RV] has been granted consent. They want to take up subjects which concern people, housing costs, day care centers, etc. There will be interviews with authorities, a little harder interviews than those taken by NRK [Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation], said the chairman of RV, Trond Andresen. For the sake of balance other registered political parties in Trondheim will be invited to participate.

The Oslo Full Evangelical Church will be one of the program producers in Oslo. Pastor Hans Bratterud told AFTENPOSTEN that good news will form the basis of the program offering. "We will emphasize bringing out the positive, Christian viewpoint of life. There will be children's programs and family programs. At first we will experiment a bit."

The Norwegian Journalistic High School will establish a local radio station for the districts around the school in Oslo. "Obviously it will be a training radio, but we primarily want to make it a professional local radio," said the college president, Jon Dorsjo. "Breaking down the NRK monopoly, which has now begun, is an important media-political event. It will increase journalistic activity, and with that follows an increased need for education. And we wish to meet that development from the beginning."

Tests with local radio and cable TV transmitters in the beginning will be limited to 1982. Culture Minister Lars Roar Langset made it clear that certain conditions will apply to the broadcasts. Before they begin NTV must approve of the technical installation. There will be requirements as to programs, which will be stored on tape for a certain time. Also the department will inform the various applicants in a letter which copyright decisions will apply and also give some ethical regulations for program activity.

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NORWAY

BRIEFS

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS FOR RESCUING--Starting in the middle of 1982 the Norwegian life saving service will be able to use satellites to receive and localize signals from emergency transmitters in Norwegian sea and land areas. This is the result of an agreement which the Norwegian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (NTNF) has entered into with organizations which stand behind the so-called COSPAS-SARSAT project. [Text] [Oslo DAGBLADET in Norwegian 27 Nov 81 p 9]
9287

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COUNTRY TO BE FIRST IN WORLD WITH TELETEXT SYSTEM

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 27 Nov 81 p 26

[Article: "Teletext System First in Sweden"]

[Text] Sweden will be the first country in the world to use the Telecommunications Service's new teletext system which, in principle, is a dramatically improved telex machine.

Already next year the new machines will be connected to the telex network of the Western countries. The Telecommunications Service presented the new system at a large gathering of 1,500 office managers and secretaries at the exhibition halls in Alvsjo outside Stockholm last Thursday.

All the modern technology available had been collected to give teletext the look of space technology. Unfortunately, the computer train technology was not as refined as the Telecommunications Service's machines and the grand opening was delayed 20 minutes.

Teletext utilizes viewing screens and an electronic keyboard that is operated like an ordinary typewriter. The text can be transmitted rapidly over the uniform network that is being constructed throughout Europe. The rate is 30 times greater than with a normal telex machine.

With data storage and other refinements, all information can be stored, retrieved from memory when needed, and serve as a basis for new teletext transmissions. It will be possible to connect systems outside teletext and the Telecommunications Service promised at the presentation that no terminal would be prevented from participating.

"In No Time"

This means that many word processing systems existing today could be connected to the teletext network and a letter could be delivered to a customer in Switzerland in no time, written out on letter paper if the customer so desires.

The teletext system will be completed throughout Europe by 1984. Even today terminals ordered by Swedish customers are being connected to the 1.2 million machines presently connected to the teletext network throughout the world.

FIRM DEVELOPS NEW COMPUTER-GUIDED TELEX TRAFFIC SYSTEM

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 9 Dec 81 p 30

[Article by Nils Rolf]

[Text] At the Salens headquarters in Stockholm they are now gradually going over to computer guidance of the enormous telex traffic--up to 4000 messages a day--that is the vital nerve of the shipping firm.

This won't lead to offices without paperwork but it will in time cut in half the annual consumption of 160 million pieces of specially-ordered telex paper.

The new system also has a number of other advantages since it will connect all the old and new communications apparatuses in Saleninvest's nine companies in one unit.

This total integration of office communications is brought about through coupling units being produced by Datemaforetaget Goran Werner, Inc. The units can hook up most of the computers and word-processing machines on the market even if they are working on different programs.

The computer company is also installing its system, called Action, with Scansped and expects to continue to find a market among transportation companies, banks, insurance companies and industries. The system can be custom-made by using computer equipment already in existence and supplemented to fit the special needs of each firm.

Old System

The special aspect with Salens is the extent of telex traffic. It is by telex that 200 ships around the world receive their instructions. A lot of information is exchanged every hour between the shipping firm's office and agents, customers and forwarding agents.

It is an unwieldy but well worked-out system project leader Bengt Lidebrandt and Werner's product chief Stefan Ryott will be modernizing.

"The model has not been changed much since 1948 when telex was introduced," said Bengt Lidebrandt.

Thirty-three Telex Lines

At Salens they are starting to couple in Action for outgoing telex. A lot of money can be made here. The bill from the Telecommunications Agency is now about 4.3 million kronor a year.

Salens now leases 33 telex lines divided up among the headquarters' nine companies and it also leases one permanent line that is open 24 hours a day to the Hong Kong office and to the office serving New York and the surrounding area.

The 33 lines will be reduced to 20 in two groups.

The terminals out on the job sites--the need is estimated at 200--are also hooked up with an already existing word-processing system. This includes a storage bank of electronically-prepared telegram models.

Internal Network

When the outgoing routines are functioning they will work on the ingoing traffic and that is where the big savings in paperwork can be made. This will eliminate all the tedious sorting work and the risk of losing time in distributing copies of telegrams will disappear.

A side effect of the system will be an internal communications network that can supply data quickly, distribute memos and other documents and through which one can exchange information between various companies and units.

A computer bank will store all the telex traffic.

"Up to 80 percent of internal activity can be handled by the computer in the future," says Bengt Lidebrandt. But the use potential is so great that it is impossible to know precisely what the future holds. However the spin-off effects will be great. In particular working conditions will improve since the computer will take over so many monotonous and routine jobs in the area of handling telegrams.

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SWEDEN

PAPER PRESENTS ARGUMENTS FOR MAKING LOCAL RADIO PERMANENT

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 21 Nov 81 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] A more or less normal Swede would hardly get worked up simply because nonprofit organizations have the right to broadcast over local radio 15 minutes or so each week at their own expense and on their own responsibility with a broadcast range of some 10 km. It is difficult to begrudge these organizations this opportunity, especially because it hardly costs society anything.

Local radio has its opponents, however. One such group is within the monopoly of the airwaves, Radio Sweden, which perhaps feels its position threatened by the harmless broadcasts of local radio. The strongest criticism is concentrated at Radio Sweden's own Lokalradion, which recently declared that local radio had no right to exist and that the interests of the various groups could be met by Lokalradion.

Their line of reasoning is, "What reason do we have to permit it?" Lokalradion exists already, Lokalradion does not believe that local radio is needed, therefore it should be prohibited. Monopoly holders have always subscribed to such arguments.

The other group of opponents is concentrated among the ideologically aware group of active Social Democrats. Here it is simply control of society that is desired. Any deviation from total monopoly is considered reprehensible. The fact that this view does not apply, for example, to newspapers must be because printing, newspapers, and freedom of the press were all discovered before socialism.

That the crass interests of monopoly (Radio Sweden, especially Lokalradion) and the interests of ideological dogmatism (Social Democrats) result in opposition to local radio is one thing. It is truly astounding, however, to discover that the idea of stopping local radio is gaining popularity within the Center Party.

The Radion Transmission Act forbids activities such as local radio. Broadcasts have been permitted nevertheless by a temporary regulation for a trial period. This temporary arrangement will soon end.

It is known that the education minister wishes to make local radio permanent. This would mean an end to the prohibition. There is a very good reason for this: There is no reason to forbid local radio and where there is no reason for a prohibition, according to the liberal view of society, there should be no prohibition.

It was believed that the nonsocialist parliamentary majority agreed on this premise.

But now some Center Party members of parliament have begun to indicate that they could go either way on this issue. To be sure, the Center Party has never been especially liberal, but have we not mentioned local government, decentralization, small-scale operation, etc. from time to time?

There could be no more small-scale broadcast medium than local radio.

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